The Point
Fitchburg State College's Student-Run Newspaper
Web: http://falcon.fsc.edu/thepoint/ Email: thepoint@fsc.edu

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Megan Moynagh, Professor Lisa Gim, Megan Bourque, and Timothy McCarthy

Sexy Shakespeare

by Megan Moynagh

On April 14, Fitchburg State College English and Theater majors joined students from several New England Colleges to participate in the Sixth Annual Central Massachusetts Undergraduate Shakespeare Conference. Held at Nichols College, the theme of this year's conference was "Sexy Shakespeare." Fitchburg State students who presented their papers were Kelly Stowell, Timothy McCarthy, Meghan Bourque, and Megan Moynagh, who also went as a participant of the conference.

The conference was broken up into 3 sessions of 7 panels that took on different topics under the theme. Topics discussed included how women were betrayed in his plays, and society's ideas on what a woman was supposed to be. Also discussed were the roles of women and men in Shakespeare's plays, and Shakespeare's sexuality itself.

One question among many who love Shakespeare's plays was "What makes Shakespeare sexy?" This lead to discussions of the sexuality of Shakespeare's characters and the roles of the two sexes in his plays. Plenary Speaker Professor Diana Henderson, a Professor of Literature at MIT and author of "The Goldilocks Guide to Sexy Shakespeare: Oversexed, Undersexed, or Just Right?" noted that Shakespeare himself was no longer sexy as he is no longer alive, but that he does live on through his works and characters.

Many of the papers that were presented had insight into not only Shakespeare's characters, but also how women were treated during Shakespeare's time; often controlled completely by the men in their lives.

At the end of the conference, there were three short scenes performed by Clark University students and Gino Dilorio, Associate Professor of Theatre at Clark. Two of the scenes were from Shakespeare's play "Twelfth Night," and the third was from "The Taming of the Shrew." In all, the day was educational and insightful in discussing the world and sexuality of Shakespeare, as well as the characters that we love or hate who continue to live in our imaginations.

How Safe Is Our Campus?

by The Point's Staff

In the wake of the Virginia Tech shootings, The Point interviewed James E. Hamel, FSC's police chief on the safety of FSC's campus. Hamel told us that, while nobody can predict that kind of tragic event, he is confident that everything humanly possible is being done: "Our preparations have been proactive, not reactive." The college has been working with city of Fitchburg and Massachusetts State police forces since 1999 (the time of the Columbine High School murders) to ensure all law-enforcement organizations work together to avert or contain a dangerous situation.

Additionally, the college police force monitors the crime situation and reallocates manpower to counter problems. One example he cited was a problem with vehicle break-ins, which numbered 33 in the year ending last June; only 12 have been reported since.

Other measures include:

- Regular meetings with Stanley Bucholc, Dean of Student and Academic Life and other FSC staff members to stay ahead of potential problems.
- A Board of Higher Education symposium in June, with campus chiefs of police from across the state sharing their ideas, expertise, and experiences.
- A recently-completed Security Needs Analysis by an outside contractor, which has highlighted some campus needs, such as emergency call box standardization.

Hamel told us that Fitchburg city police foot patrols in the campus area will continue for the foreseeable future. He also noted that, while there has been some increased concern lately within the FSC community over safety, the recent campus forums helped increase awareness of what has been done to maintain security.

Chief James Hamel: "Our preparations have been proactive, not reactive."

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On Cancer, Cars, and al Qaeda

The message is pounded into our heads day after day: we are in danger. We're safer now than at any time in history (and colleges and schools are far safer than the country as a whole) but we're constantly warned that death is right around the corner: religious fanatics will crash jetliners into buildings, killer storms will devastate our cities, pandemics will depopulate the countryside, madmen will invade our schools and massacre us. The fact, however, is that an American is more likely to drown in a swimming pool than die in any of these situations put together.

The news media have a saying that succinctly describes their position on fear: "If if bleeds, it leads." In other words, a story dealing with deaths will almost always be the first one covered.

It was inevitable that the Blacksburg, Virginia mass murders would be followed by a multitude of reporters, camera operators, news anchors, and their supporting crews, all ready to profit from the carnage. This is no journalistic desire to inform the public, although the purveyors may have convinced themselves that this is their motive. The networks' motivation is their own advancement by boosting their stock and standing: better ratings mean more profit. If you doubt this, watch the evening news, and count how many lead stories deal with death or disasters. Bad news means good corporate profits.

The news organizations were not welcome in the vicinity of the Virginia shootings. National Public Radio's Noah Adams reported the Monday after the 33 killings that "the [Virginal Tech] student government has requested that all media leave the campus,"... there has been "a lot of intrusion on a hurtful time and many people have been angry about it."

Why? Because people aren't stupid: they know when somebody's making a buck off of their heartache.

This is not to say that all reporters try to advance themselves on the bodies of the dead. Many honestly feel a duty to explain to the public what has happened and its effect on the survivors. The media corporations themselves, however, are motivated by simple greed.

Fear has been furthered by a federal administration looking to garner support by claiming to be the one option in a "War on Terror," as if terror were a monster lurking in the shadows, waiting to strike us down. If Washington's veracity or competence is questioned, the mantras "911" and "al Qaeda" are chanted to convince us to follow them lest we all die horribly.

The question thus poses itself: "What can we do?"

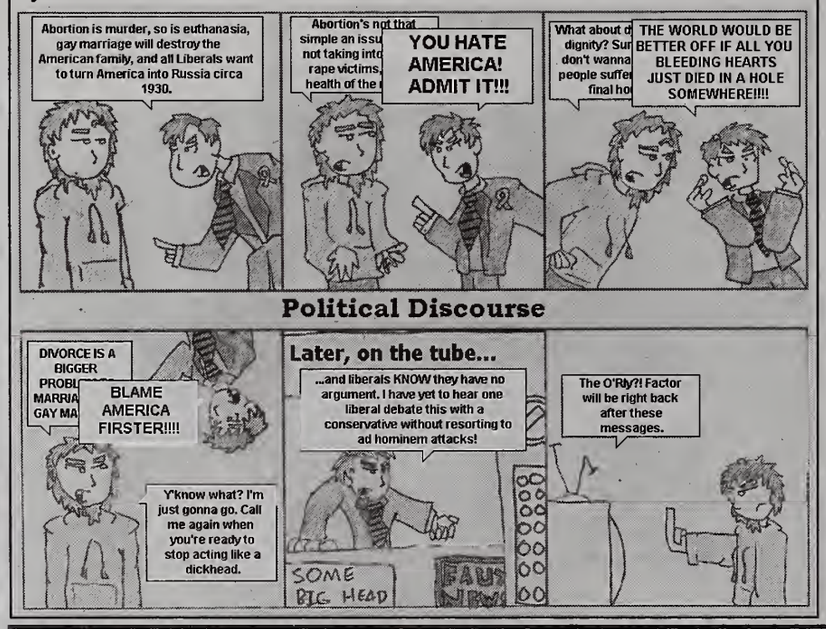
The best answer? Live your life. Be prudent. Lock your doors. Wear a seat belt. Don't drink and drive. Don't sky dive without a reserve parachute. But don't obsess over something that likely will never happen.

3000 people died in the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. In the United States, that many die of cancer in two days. How often do you think about that? Every month 3000 Americans are killed in car crashes. Have you given up automobile travel? If you died between Sept. 10, 2001 and today, you were 1200 times more likely to have died of cancer than to have been killed by al Qaeda and more than 80 times as likely to have died in an auto accident.

So be smart. Be careful. Just don't be afraid. Life's short, and we'll all die anyway. Until then, live life and don't sweat the small stuff.

Political Discourse

by Lee Martin



No, No, Nina

By Ye Balde Olde Farte

Ye Farte, being of unusual girth, requires vast quantities of sustenance. It should not be surprising, therefore, that he enjoys exploring eateries of all stripes. Thus was he delighted to find Nina's Subs, at 336 Summer Street, Fitchburg, near John Fitch Highway. Sadly, this is not his final emotion.

The appearance was unkempt, with old newspapers and flyers cluttering the window sill. This should have warned Ye Farte to pay close attention to the operation of this place, but he failed to do so, to his regret.

Ordering a large chicken sub, Ye Farte waddled off to his environs to devour this offering, but it was not a satisfying experience. The sauce was nondescript and the bread was chewy, bearing a texture and taste similar to that of paper towels.

Whether this abominable product caused the gastric disturbances Ye Farte later endured cannot be determined. However, what *can* be determined is that he will not patronize this establishment again.

"The Point" is a student-generated news source produced at Fitchburg State College. Opinions and commentary within it do not necessarily reflect the views of The Point, Fitchburg State College, the state of Massachusetts, or of any persons living or dead.

"The Point" will print opinions regarding its content or material relevant to Fitchburg State College community at its discretion. Contributors of all material must identify themselves; names will be withheld at the contributor's request. Direct material to The Point, 160 Pearl Street, Fitchburg, MA 01420 or to thepoint@fsc.edu.

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Editing and layout by Bruce Lucier and Ashley Malouin.

Just Ask An Insomniac

By Baxter Slayton

Bradley Thompson writes:

The people who live next door to my dorm room play Hip Hop music very loudly until all hours. Please tell them to stop it.

That is not a question, Mr. Thompson. I have specifically stated that all queries that are to be sent to me must be in the form of a question; otherwise my unpaid intern, Jeff, will haphazardly toss them aside into the dust bin. (My payment to him is he is allowed to use my refrigerator, which is the only place on campus to find ice.)

But since I am in a good mood today, I will answer your non-question by giving you some advice on how to live with your nuisance of a neighbor.

Before attempting anything else, the first thing to do is to simply knock on his door and ask them to turn the music down, because you are attempting to study. (This is the angle to use, regardless of whether you are studying or not.)

Generally any decent human being with any shred of moral fiber would turn down the music, unless of course they are a member of a race of cave dwelling goblins, who have evolved past the use of their eyes in order to see, and use vibrations and sound as their form of sight.

If they refused your request (and are not goblins), then clearly the time for being cordial is over, and you must engage in psychological warfare with your pesky neighbor. When he begins to blast music loudly at an hour you deem unfit for said music, wait for HIS "me-time" and blast through your stereo equally loud and moreso annoying music. If you do not have a stereo, you may need to utilize a bullhorn. As for what is good music to play for a scenario such as this, I would recommend the works of the G'Rookmanistaani composer Van Hammersly, who has created an unprecedented niche out of his atonal combination of cornets and egg shakers.

It is unwise to attempt this tactic if the man in question is a goblin, as they are well versed in the dark arts, and will place a powerful hex upon your loins with little provocation.

Another suggestion is simply to wear headphones. This tactic has yet to fail, but must only be used as a second-to-last resort, as simply wearing headphones to block out the neighbor's noise with your own would be giving up, and the last I checked, America is not the land of quitters. (The free and brave, remember?)

Generally any of these solutions will work. If they do not work, then there is only one last resort, which is only to be used in only the utmost and the direst of situations.

You must bring them to a voodoo expert to have them reanimated as a zombie slave. Before attempting this feat you must retrieve all of the necessary ingredients to produce a zombie slave. This includes a lock of hair from the victim, a flake of skin, the still beating heart of an ancient Germanic princess, and 3 leaves of saffron. (These days saffron costs about 7.45 a leaf, but surely you will agree that peace and quiet is well worth 22.35.)

After getting a hold of these ingredients take them to a voodoo expert, and they will do the rest. (You can find one on campus. He lives in room 510A of Russell Towers.) Afterwards you will never be disturbed by loud music again, unless you command your zombie to.

Do you have a question to ask the insomniac? E-mail it to blahblahson666@yahoo.com.

Venerable Advice

Associate yourself with men of good quality if you esteem your own reputation; for 'tis better to be alone than in bad company.

George Washington

People who fight fire with fire usually end up with ashes.

Abigail Van Buren

When you have got an elephant by the hind leg and he is trying to run away, it's best to let him run.

Abraham Lincoln

Never let your inferiors do you a favor. It will be extremely costly.

H. L. Mencken

I leave this rule for others when I'm dead,
Be always sure you're right--then go ahead.

Davy Crockett

A good scare is worth more to a man than good advice.

Edgar Watson Howe

Advice, n. The smallest current coin.

Ambrose Bierce

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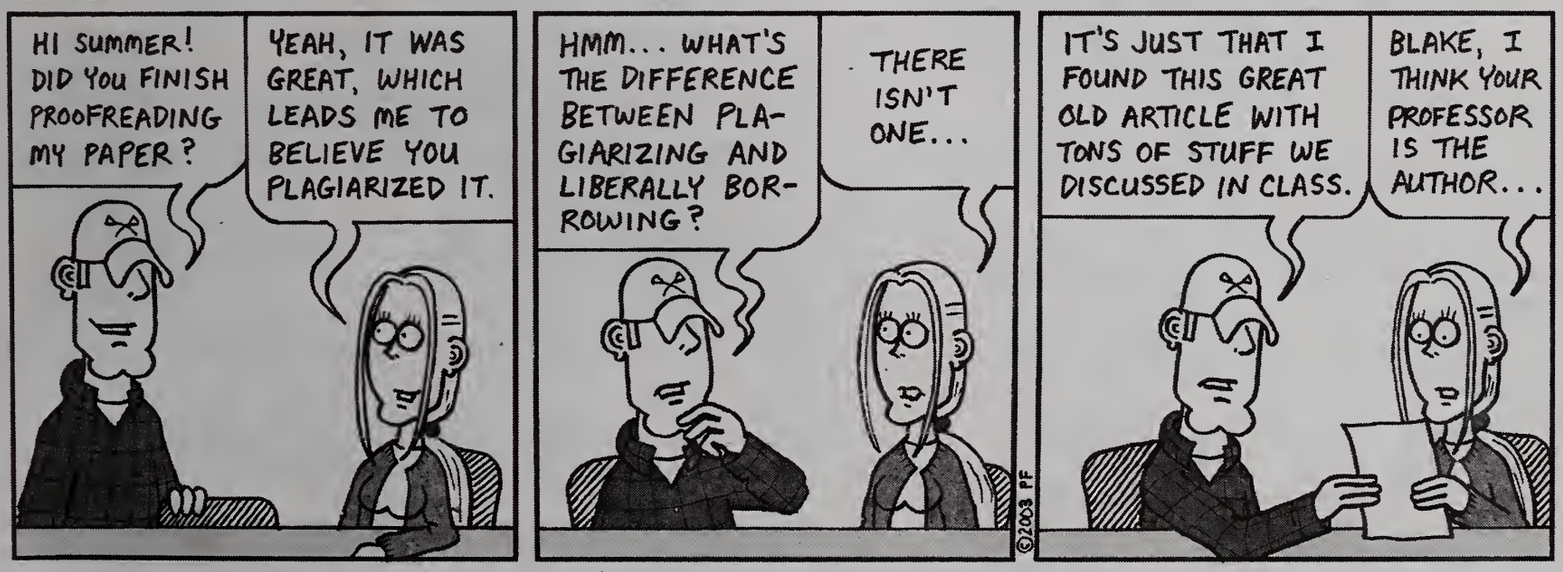
LEX

by phil flickinger (www.l-e-x.com)



Hammond Center Schedule

Hours of Operation through May 6, 2007

Sunday	Noon - 11:00 PM
Monday- Thursday	7:30 AM - 11:00 PM
Friday	7:30 AM - 7:00 PM
Saturday	Noon - 5:00 PM

Gallucci-Cirio Library Schedule

978-665-3196

Hours of Operation Through May 6, 2007

Monday - Thursday	8:00 AM - 11:00 PM
Friday	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Saturday	10:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Sunday	1:00 PM - 11:00 PM

Final Exam Extended Library Hours

Mon - Thurs, May 7-10	8:00 AM - Midnight
Friday, May 11	8:00 AM - 10:00 PM
Saturday, May 12	10:00 AM - 10:00 PM
Sunday, May 13	1:00 PM - 11:00 PM
Mon., Tues., May 14-15	8:00 AM - Midnight
Wednesday, May 16	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Recreation Center Schedule

978-665-3683

Hours of Operation through May 6, 2007

Monday-Thursday	
Main Building	7:00 AM - 11:00 PM
Pool (Open/Lap Swim)	7-9 AM, 11 AM - 1 PM, 4-9 PM
Friday	
Recreation Center Bldg.	7:00 AM - 9:00 PM
Pool (Open/Lap Swim)	7-9 AM, 11 AM - 1 PM, 4-8 PM
Saturday	
Main Building	11:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Pool (Open/Lap Swim)	2:00 - 4:00 PM
Sunday	
Main Building	1:00 - 10:00 PM
Pool (Open/Lap Swim)	4:00 - 8:00 PM

Snow day schedule - Monday - Friday: Opens at 10:00 AM, closes at normal times. Saturday and Sunday: Normal schedule.

FSC Club List

1 in 10 and Friends- Maria Villena - mvillen1@student.fsc.edu
This is the campus gay-straight alliance.
Alpha Sigma Tau Sorority - Kelly Maloney - kmalon13@student.fsc.edu
Anime Club - Jeff Nixon - jnixon1@student.fsc.edu
Biology Club - tfroggy912@yahoo.com
Campus Girl Scouts - fsccampusscouts@hotmail.com
College-aged people helping younger Girl Scouts earn merit badges, work as a team, and learn skills.
Cheerleading- http://falcon.fsc.edu/~cheerleading/
Class of 2008 - Pamela Linstad - plinstad@student.fsc.edu
Christian Fellowship - http://falcon.fsc.edu/cffsc/
Dance Club- Erin Kennedy - Ekenned1@student.fsc.edu
Greek Council - Jessica McCarthy- jmccart3@student.fsc.edu
Kappa Delta Pi - Jason Weeks - jasonweeks@earthlink.net
Martial Arts Club- Eliot Prisby- eprisby@student.fsc.edu
The Martial Arts Club improves the lives of students through the discipline and philosophies of martial arts.
Math Club - Megan Mickle - mmickle@student.fsc.edu
Model UN - rlessar3@student.fsc.edu
National Association of Home Builders scruse@student.fsc.edu
Nursing Students Association - NSA@fsc.edu
Order of Omega - kmalon13@student.fsc.edu
Greek Honor Society
Panhellenic - Pamela Linstad - plinstad@student.fsc.edu
Political Science Club - fscpoliticalscienceclub@gmail.com
Programs Committee - fitchburgstateprograms@yahoo.com
Programs brings entertainment and events to campus, such as comedians, musicians, novelty acts, and speakers.
Psychology Club - tfroggy912@yahoo.com
Rescue Squad - rescuesquad@fsc.edu
Sigma Pi Fraternity - Timothy Callahan- tcallahan@student.fsc.edu
Sigma Sigma Sigma Sorority - Tracy Renault - trenault@student.fsc.edu
Sigma Sigma Sigma, a national sorority, is a sisterhood of women who achieve high standards of leadership, character, and conduct, as well as being contributing members to the community.
WXPL- Steve Bailey- stevejamsecono@yahoo.com
FSC's student-run radio station broadcasts at 91.3 FM

If your club is not listed here, contact us at thepoint@fsc.edu with your club's name, contact method, and (optionally) a short club description.

If personal information (names, telephone, or e-mail) is offered, you must explicitly give your permission for it to be published in The Point.

The Volunteer Center Needs Your Help!

• "Project of True Dreams" is collecting 'experienced' prom dresses through May 1 to donate to ladies at Fitchburg High School.

• They also need volunteers for Kids Day on Saturday, May 5th, from 9 AM to 2 PM at the North Street Playground (near the FSC Recreation Center).

• The Walk for Hunger is on Sunday, May 6th. Help a needy family get a good meal. Hard on the feet but good for the soul. Info is at the center.

If you have a volunteer project idea, call the center at extension 3649.

Spring Week 007

Courtesy of the Class of 2007

Monday April 30th

Civic Engagement	4pm	Hammond Main Lounge
Darfur Concert	6pm-9pm	Russell Patio
Movie Trivia Game show	8pm	Underground Pub

Tuesday May 1st 4-7pm Main Quad
From Programs with Love: Novelty day and Dinner on the Quad Slip & Slide. Activities will include airbrushed trucker hats, sand art, frisbee art, toilet races, and mechanical bull riding.

Wednesday May 2nd
Last Comic Standing: April Macie 9pm Underground Pub

Thursday May 3rd

Amazing Race	4pm	Hammond Main Lounge
Cinco de Mayo Party	9pm	Underground Pub

Friday May 4
Drive in Movie: Casino Royale. Come and enjoy mock-tails, fried ice cream and fried Oreos! 8pm Main Quad

O Wind,
If Winter comes, can Spring be far behind?

Percy Bysshe Shelley

Winter lingered so long in the lap of Spring that it occasioned a great deal of talk.

Attributed to Bill Nye

We're offering so many online courses this summer, we're thinking of changing our mascot to a mouse.

Choose from over 80 undergraduate and graduate online courses, 140 on-campus courses, and four accelerated sessions.

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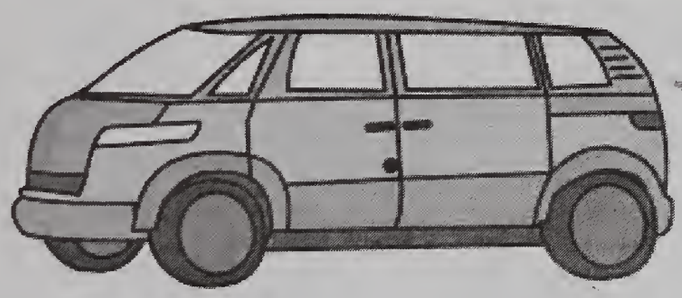
Information Session
Tuesday, May 1, 4:30-7:30 pm

Register now!
Summer sessions begin
May 29-30 and July 9

WXPL 91.3 FM

FSC's Student-Run Radio Station
Request line: 978-665-4848



Student Van Shuttle Schedule

Sunday Fitchburg MBTA pick up 1:00,4:00,7:00 PM.
Fitchburg Loop 4:00-7:00

Monday and Wednesday 3:00-9:00 PM
Twin City Plaza, BJs on Erdman Way, Marshall's Plaza, Water Tower Plaza, The Mall at Whitney Field, Target

Tuesday and Thursday 3:00-9:00
WalMart, Central Plaza, John Fitch Hwy, Market Basket, Blockbuster, Elliot Field, Wallace Civic Center

Friday 12:30-4:30
WalMart, Central Plaza, John Fitch Hwy, Market Basket, Blockbuster, Elliot Field, Wallace Civic Center
MBTA dropoff 1:00 & 3:00

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Aristophanes Absurdified

by Oblio Andarro

"Lysistrata," a play written by Aristophanes in 411 B.C., was recently presented in the McKay Auditorium by Fitchburg State College's English and Industrial Technology Departments. Running from Mar. 28 through Apr. 5, the play was freely modernized, made clear when Lysistrata (Kennedy Award nominee Victoria Torres) opens by carrying a Coleman cooler labeled "Ouzo" onstage. What follows can only be described as bizarre.

"Lysistrata" tells a fictional story of a female revolt against the Peloponnesian War, which had been ongoing for twenty years. In the play, most Greeks are tired of the war, but the major powers are too prideful to end it.

Enter Lysistrata, inciting the women of Athens and its allies to withhold sex from their men until the war is concluded. The women of Sparta, Athens' opponent, follow suit. The Athenian women also barricade themselves inside the Acropolis to deny use of the public funds held there.

The presentation is adamantly sophomoric, from the in-drag Spartan "women's" breasts flashing the audience (with blinking lights in addition to the usual sense) to the phallic imagery of a battering ram (used to assault the ladies' barrier) and the frustrated, aroused men's organs. (The latter, it should be noted, is true to the original, although to modern audiences it seems an attempt at shock humor.)

Parallels are drawn to our present misadventure in Iraq, with some speechifying and a Karl Rovian Commissioner (Jack Crory) spurring on Athenian Keystone Kops. Thankfully, preaching on this subject was held to a minimum. Cheney, Rumsfeld, and Bush didn't appear among the villains, but it wouldn't have been surprising if they had.

The sheer over-the-top strangeness was unrelenting. In itself, this isn't necessarily bad, but it was untempered by subtlety; the weirdness overshadows all other impressions. The choreography needed a bit of work, but this can be excused as the players are not professionals. Dominique Bertel stood out among the cast, and director Richard McElvain utilized her fully.

Lysistrata was announced as being unsuitable for those under the age of fifteen. It could have been similarly billed for those over the age of thirty.

Lysistrata as depicted by Aubrey Beardsley (1872-1898)

A Modern-Day "Lysistrata"

Life imitated art in 2006 when Colombian drug traffickers' girlfriends and wives refused to have sex with their partners unless they participated in a government-sponsored disarmament program. Their city, Periera, had witnessed 480 murders the previous year.

Mairéad Ní Mhaonaigh, Altan's lead fiddler.

Fiddles Fly at Weston Auditorium

Altan Brings the Luck o' the Irish to FSC

by Becki Davis

Two fiddlers, two guitarists and an accordion player had the Fitchburg audience tapping their toes to traditional Irish tunes this February.

Altan, a five-member band hailing from Donegal, Ireland, has been entertaining audiences all over the world for almost twenty years. Unlike other Irish bands that play slow bagpipe ballads, Altan keeps the energy up throughout their show. "It's played in the Donegal style," says one of the fiddle players, Ciaran Tourish, "which is different than any other part of Ireland. It's mainly fiddle music—the fiddles take the lead, and it's a fast and vigorous type of music."

Altan's namesake is a lake in Donegal called Loch Altan. "It's an old word for 'sloping into water', so this lake is surrounded, it's right in the middle of a mountainous area," says Tourish. While it's clear that their hometown means a lot to them, Altan manages to spread the spirit of their Irish culture to countries throughout the world. "No matter where we go," explains Tourish, "you know, we play in Japan, Australia, New Zealand, all over Europe, America, Canada; everyone seems to like it. [Our music], it crosses every boundary."

Playing against a magnificent sunburst backdrop, the fast-paced, beautifully coordinated melodies coming from the stage enchant concert-goers, young and old alike. But what really distinguishes Altan is the musicians' ample experience. The band members have remained unchanged since the early 1990s, and they have released an impressive ten albums in their time. "We've been at it so long, we know what we want in sound checks. We've become quite adept at it," says Tourish. Altan's style and sound has varied a bit through the years as they've developed, but their traditional Irish inspiration has remained the same. "It's what we do," says Tourish, "it's what we know."

Their website is at www.altan.ie.

FSC's Dance Club Shows Their Talent, Style, and Poise

by Laura Wilbur

The Fitchburg State College dance club is the largest club on campus, averaging about 180 students each year. Students teach all classes, making it a club run by students, for students. The club is open to everyone, although certain classes do hold auditions. For those who have never danced or taken classes, the dance club offers classes for students at all levels. The club also has ethnic classes, for example Irish Step and African Dance.

Anchors Aweigh!

Boo! (Did we scare you?)

Club President Erin Kennedy

Grace Personified

Now where's that confounded sheikh?... On the other hand, who needs him?

2007/2008 SGA Election Results

Executive Board and Council

President	Miss Maria Villena
Vice President	Miss Marissa Torres
Secretary	Miss Kristen Creamer
Treasurer	Mr. Scott Pryor
Public Info. Director	Mr. Nathan Sanden
Student Trustee	Mr. Eric Mayhew

Class of 2008

President – Miss Jennifer Flannery
Vice President – Miss Pamela Linstad
Secretary **
Treasurer – Miss Colleen Rose
Class Representatives **

Class of 2009

President – Miss Edye Levin
Vice President – Miss Emily Stein
Secretary – Miss Lauren Barry
Treasurer – Miss Cait Healey
Class Representatives **

**Indicates open position(s)

Class of 2009 (continued)

Miss Amanda James
Mr. Sean George

Class of 2010

President – Miss Kimberly Pho
Vice President – Miss Megan Benevides
Secretary **
Treasurer – Mr. Mark Hubbard
Class Representatives **
Miss Brooke Devins

Commuter Board

President – Miss Christine Quiry
Vice President – Miss Rebecca Richard
Secretary – Miss Lucy Fernandez
Treasurer – Mr. Peter Uzoma
Representatives **
Miss Jennifer Davis
Miss Chinyeru Obi
Miss Sarah Paxton

**Indicates open position(s)

Fitchburg State Alumnus Is Now Published Author

by Nicole Accardi

Local author and Fitchburg State College alumna Lynne Cyr came back to her roots to provide aspiring authors with tips on writing and publishing children's books.

On Feb. 6, Cyr visited the Ellis White Lecture Hall, returning to the campus where she spent 10 years studying graphic and Web design as a communications media major.

It was here while doing a final project that Cyr's published book, "Drako's ABC Adventures as an Iguana," came to be in the form of a three page paper. However, it wasn't until 2005, two years after Cyr graduated, that she decided to take her book to the next step. "I think I'm ready to finish and publish this book," Cyr recalls herself saying. As an added accomplishment, Cyr started her own publishing company, Cyr Design Company, located in Nashua, N.H., to publish her book herself.

Though Fitchburg State was not the first appearance Cyr has ever done, this one had an added bonus. "Because it's Fitchburg State, this is probably the biggest show I've ever done," explains Cyr. In the past, the author has visited various libraries and smaller settings to do book readings and have autograph sessions. In addition to just doing the readings, Cyr has also incorporated a puppet show to accompany the book and even brings a special guest, her very own live Uro lizard, named Sandy. "I interact with the kids and the kids love it," she adds.

Cyr's presentation at Fitchburg State was put together by Beth Fullerton, a Fitchburg State professor in the English Department. Fullerton was also Cyr's academic advisor for the ten years that she spent at Fitchburg State, and the two have kept in touch. The event was free and open to the public, and provided plenty of entertainment for children as Cyr was able to share her finished piece of children's literature with many. "This is basically my dream come true."

Top Ten Worst Gifts Imaginable

by Sarah Taylor and Sara Chalifoux

After interviewing select FSC students, we compiled a list of the top ten worst gifts given or received.

10. Tube socks
9. An empty picture frame
8. A bottle of ketchup
7. A homemade sweater
6. Low-fat candy (from a girlfriend/boyfriend)
5. Padded toilet seat
4. The same gift you gave them last year
3. Condoms (from a relative)
2. A horse's head
1. A disease

Lou and Jack Reamy

Local Couple Honored

A Fitchburg State College staff member is honoring his parents and their community service through the creation of a scholarship fund and golf tournament.

The Jack and Lou Leamy Scholarship Fund Golf Tournament will be held 10 a.m. Friday, May 25 at Westminster Country Club. Entries cost $100 per person. Tournament sponsors are also needed at levels ranging from $25 to $250.

Dr. Michael Leamy, distance education coordinator and professor of business administration at Fitchburg State, said his parents found joy in helping others.

"They spent most of their lives giving back to the city of Fitchburg and its youth," he said.

The two were known for their volunteer efforts on the behalf of disabled individuals; Leamy's older brother John suffered from mental disabilities. Jack Leamy was volunteer president of ARC Community Services in Fitchburg from 1990 to 1992.

The couple was a fixture at Reingold Elementary School, as well as with Ansin Park's Little League program. Jack Leamy helped with everything from the initial building of Ansin Park to coaching Little League from the 1980s until 2001. Lou Leamy ran Ansin Park's concession stand for years until she became physically unable to do so. During her later years, a wheelchair couldn't stop Lou Leamy's commitment; she still helped out at the park.

After Lou's passing in 1996 and Jack's in 2001, Michael Leamy thought that the best way to honor them was to continue their spirit of community service. The Jack and Lou Leamy Scholarship will be awarded yearly to a student who is involved in their community.

"Jack and Lou loved each other, their family and this great city of Fitchburg," he said. "This scholarship will honor them by helping a student that has demonstrated a commitment to community service, which was a passion they held close to their hearts."

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(Story courtesy FSC PR Department)